GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
EXTERNAL AFFAIRS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3726
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2000
TRANSFER OF AMBASSADORS
MADAN PRASAD JAISWAL

Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

a] the criteria laid down for the transfer of the Ambassadors posted in Europe and elsewhere;
b] whether criteria was followed in respect of transfer of the Ambassadors when the retirement age was extended upto 60 years, as a result of the Government decision in 1998;
c] if not, the number of Ambassadors in Europe who were permitted to continue in their posts beyond their normal tenure of three years and the reasons therefor;
d] whether there was any exception to this three-year condition; and
e] if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS [SHRI AJIT KUMAR PANJA]

a] The appointments of Ambassadors /High Commissioners to foreign countries are decided on the basis of a number of criteria which include, inter alia, their seniority, career, relevant experience and an overall suitability for the tasks and the posts.

b] Yes Sir.

c] Does not arise.

d & e] There is no rule which lays down the tenure of our Ambassadors posted in missions abroad. Therefore the question of exception does not arise.